

education dollars from the program to 1 million by the year 2000.

□ 1245

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, the President and congressional Democrats have an ambitious agenda to make college accessible and affordable to everyone, not just the wealthy, and I hope that in a bipartisan spirit we will see the Republicans join us in our efforts to improve the Nation's higher education system.

I just want to talk about one more thing that I think is important that the President will be talking about tonight, and that is the need for funding for construction. Right now about 60 percent of the Nation's schools are in need of major repair or outright replacement. The President's school construction, paid for within the context of a balanced budget, would jump start the process of improving the physical structures in which our children are taught. Under this plan, school construction would increase by 25 percent over the next 4 years.

A number of these Federal initiatives are needed, I believe, very strongly, and again, we are not talking about huge new programs that are going to bust the budget, but we are talking about very small initiatives that can really make a difference in the average person's life, and that is what our Democratic family first agenda is all about. The President will be talking about the education components and other components of it tonight, and I hope that we can see swift action in the 105th Congress on these initiatives.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SUPER BOWL CHAMPION GREEN BAY PACKERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 21, 1997, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. KIND] is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to formally congratulate the Super Bowl champion Green Bay Packers and to thank them for finally returning the Vince Lombardi trophy back home to the State of Wisconsin where it belongs.

This season, Packer fans old and new watched the progress of the NFL's only community-owned team from the NFL's smallest city. It is a remarkable story as old as history: When David first slew Goliath, when Moses led his people out of Egypt, when 13 little-known small colonies took on the great might, the world power of Great Britain and King George and won their independence.

The Packer's success has rekindled the spirit of Green Bay and the entire State of Wisconsin, as well as the spirit of small towns and small cities across America. In an era when some professional athletes are failing as role models, the Packers organization consistently produces outstanding members of the community.

Take a look at Brett Favre's story. It is a remarkable story. A superstar who realized that he was addicted to pain killers, fought through that, won a second MVP award for the NFL, and then led his team on to the Super Bowl victory; and Reggie White, the catalyst, the glue, that held the team together, gave great pride to the entire Green Bay area and State of Wisconsin; one defensive man who probably dominated the sport more than any other defensive player in the history of the NFL, but who always reminded us also always, always remember who the glory belongs to, and that is to God.

Last week, over 100,000 people braved subzero weather for many, many hours waiting to welcome the Green Bay Packers home to their city as Super Bowl champions, and I think that story tells it all. That is why it is my great honor today to congratulate the entire Packer organization and their many, many loyal and patient fans, not only in Green Bay, but in Wisconsin and throughout the country and to honor the Packers and the remarkable achievement on the floor of the House of Representatives and before this Nation today.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the House stands in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 49 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

From the early days of the life of our Nation, we have prayed for Your blessing, O God, and we have asked to be sustained by Your benediction. In days of war and times of peace, in all the moments of human frailty and special courage we have paused to give You thanks. From women and men, from young and old, from north or south, from city and village, we have joined in our words of gratitude for Your providence to us and in our petitions for the welfare of our country.

As we now prepare for this new day, gracious God, let this time be full of hope for the year ahead as we seek a firm reliance on Your good word. May our hearts be bound together in unity as we pray in the words of scripture that in all things we will do justly, love mercy, and ever walk humbly with You. This is our earnest prayer. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Washington [Mr. METCALF] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. METCALF led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR TERM LIMITS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

(Mr. SOLOMON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on the Judiciary has already reported House Joint Resolution 2, the term limits constitutional amendment. Copies of the joint resolution are available for review in the office of the Committee on the Judiciary.

The Committee on Rules is planning to meet early next week to grant a rule which may limit the amendments to be offered to the joint resolution. Any Member who wishes to offer a different version of the term limits constitutional amendment should submit 55 copies and a brief explanation by noon-time on Monday, February 10, to the Committee on Rules in room H-312 in the Capitol. Members are strongly advised to submit only amendments in the nature of a substitute. Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are properly drafted and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 22, 1997.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in clause 5 of rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on Wednesday, January 22, 1997 at 11:10 a.m.

The Senate passed without amendment, House Joint Resolution 25.

With warm regards,

ROBIN H. CARLE,
Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives.